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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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 SUBJECT 1. Construction of Minesweepers in Volkast NO. OF PAGES 1
 2. Seepolizei Notes
 PLACE ACQUIRED NO. OF ENCLS.
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1. The Peenewerft in Volkast at present employs 2400 workers. Minesweepers with a length of about 28 meters and with 3000 horsepower motors are being built there. The ships are armed with three four-barrelled 22 mm. guns and take a complement of thirty men.
2. The Peenewerft is no longer a People's Owned Enterprise but has now the status of a state industry (Staatsbetrieb). Plans for new construction have been impeded by difficulties with materials. The production goal now is about 14 minesweepers (R-Boote) per year. In addition, repairs are undertaken on small Russian naval vessels and German cutters.
3. Recently some wharf workers complained about installing guns on the minesweepers and maintained that the slogans of the "Ohne uns" ("Without us") movement were as valid for the DDR as for West Germany. The workers concerned were not imprisoned but were sent to work elsewhere, chipping rust from old boilers. They were told that the guns they had been installing were not going to be used to make war but to destroy mines in the Baltic Sea.
4. The Seepolizei formerly in Zinnowitz have been transferred to Peenemuende, where they are quartered in barracks near the old maritime crane (Marinekran) in the old part of town. The unit is 220 men strong, large enough to furnish complements for six ships; it is said that ships are to be supplied in the near future. It has been noticed that the unit is overstaffed with officers in proportion to the number of enlisted personnel.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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